

HOUSE BILL 689

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By: **Delegates Myers, Beitzel, Kelly, Miller, Serafini, Shank, and Stull**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2010

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Natural Resources – POWs and Disabled Veterans – Exception to Trout**
3 **Stamp Requirement**

4 FOR the purpose of creating an exception for certain holders of a lifetime
5 complimentary angler's license who are former prisoners of war or service
6 disabled veterans to the requirement to obtain a trout stamp before catching or
7 possessing freshwater trout; and generally relating to exceptions to the
8 requirement to obtain trout stamps.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Natural Resources
11 Section 4–607
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Natural Resources
16 Section 4–614
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2005 Replacement Volume and 2009 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Natural Resources**

22 4–607.

23 (a) (1) The Department may issue annually a complimentary angler's
24 license to the President of the United States, the governor of any state, and any official
25 of the game and fish department of any other state.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) The Department may issue a lifetime complimentary angler's
2 license to any Maryland resident who certifies that the resident is a former prisoner of
3 war or 100% service connected disabled American veteran.

4 (b) Not more than 20 complimentary licenses for each state other than
5 Maryland shall be outstanding at any time.

6 (c) A complimentary license is not transferable and shall be issued without a
7 fee on forms the Department designates.

8 (d) For the purposes of this section, "former prisoner of war" means a person
9 who, while serving in the active military, naval, or air service of the United States,
10 was forcibly detained or interned in the line of duty by an enemy government or its
11 agents, or a hostile force, during a period of armed conflict.

12 4-614.

13 (a) (1) Except for a holder of a current resident consolidated senior sport
14 fishing license issued under § 4-216 of this title, **A HOLDER OF A LIFETIME**
15 **COMPLIMENTARY ANGLER'S LICENSE FOR SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS OR**
16 **FORMER PRISONERS OF WAR ISSUED UNDER § 4-607(A)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE,**
17 and a person authorized by a disability exemption issued under § 4-217 of this title, a
18 person 16 years old or older may not fish in any special catch-and-return trout
19 management area and may not possess trout while fishing in nontidal waters unless
20 the person first obtains a trout stamp in addition to an angler's license. The stamp
21 shall be obtained from any authorized agent of the Department at a cost of \$5. The
22 Department may designate a person engaged in a retail business to sell the trout
23 stamp as an agent under the Department's control and supervision. The trout stamps
24 may be furnished to agents upon consignment if the Department is given adequate
25 security to insure ultimate payment to the Department for the stamps.

26 (2) The Department may sell expired stamps below face value to the
27 general public for a period of 3 years, after which time the Department shall shred any
28 unsold stamps. All revenues derived from the sale of these stamps shall revert back to
29 the game management fund.

30 (b) Any resident serving in the armed forces of the United States, while on
31 leave in the State, may fish without a trout stamp during his period of leave if he
32 possesses a copy of his official leave order while fishing.

33 (c) A person is not required to have a trout stamp to possess trout taken
34 from:

35 (1) Any privately owned lake or pond that is stocked with trout
36 artificially propagated by commercial hatcheries or purchased from persons licensed to
37 sell fish; or

1 (2) Any fee fishing lake or pond operated under § 4–11A–20 of this
2 title.

3 (d) The Department or any authorized agent of the Department may issue a
4 duplicate trout stamp for a fee not exceeding \$1 if a person indicates that the trout
5 stamp is lost and is on record for previously purchasing a trout stamp.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
7 October 1, 2010.